

Jacob<sup>us</sup> Wyckoff House  
Franklin Park, Somerset County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, P.A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Jacob<sup>us</sup> Wyckoff House  
Franklin Park, Somerset County, New Jersey

Owner: Harvey E. Means

Date of Erection: West wing shortly after 1745;  
main house pre-revolutionary

Architect:

Builder: Jacobus Wyckoff

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Main house two; wing one and  
one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame  
construction, siding except  
gable walls of main unit  
which are original cedar  
shingles

Interior walls - plaster,  
ceiling beams exposed in  
second floor

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

The tract upon which this house stands was  
granted to Harrison and Willocks in 1700. John Daley's  
map of 1745 shows no house at this location, but a  
house marked C. Wycof appears on a map made by him  
shortly afterwards. Dunham's map of 1766 shows a house

that is marked Jacobus Wilkoff. Brskine's map is marked Cobus Wyckoff. Jacobus or Cobus Wyckoff was evidently the builder. After Jacob's death the farm was broken up; Peter, apparently a son, inherited the north part and the south part with the house was bought about 1797 by the churches of Millstone and Six Mile Run for a parsonage and was occupied for several years by the Reverend Dr. Cannon. After this Abraham Voorhis purchased the property. He left it to his son Abraham, Jr., who died unmarried in 1868. A map of 1850 shows A. Voorhis as the owner and a map of 1860s shows P. Ayers. We know that it was owned by a Peter Ayers. In 1874 the property came in the possession of John R. Smith and then passed to his son Peter Smith who sold to a real estate dealer from whom the present owner purchased in 1923.

Bibliography:

Bailey, Rosalie F. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York New York, William Morrow and Company, 1936

Snell, J. P. History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey Philadelphia, Everts and Peck, 1881

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reviewed - July 1938  
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